IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Application No.:

10/581,424

Filing Date:

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Applicants:

Chia-Ying Lin et al.

Group Art Unit:

2123

Confirmation No.:

3777

Examiner:

KIDEST BAHTA

Title:

BIODEGRADABLE/BIORESORBABLE TISSUE

AUGMENTATION/RECONSTRUCTION DEVICE

Attorney Docket:

2115-002753/US/NPB

Director of the United States Patent and Trademark Office P.O. Box 1450 Alexandria, Virginia 22313-1450

COMMENTS ON STATEMENT OF REASONS FOR ALLOWANCE

Sir

In response to the Examiner's Statement of Reasons for Allowance in the Notice of Allowance dated March 17, 2011, Applicants make the following observations.

Applicants respectfully acknowledge the Examiner allowing this application. With respect to the Examiner's Statement of Reasons for Allowance, however, Applicants respectfully submit that the elements that the Examiner asserts and the interpretation thereof for the basis for allowing this application too narrowly define the invention. In fact, Applicants respectfully submit that the elements and their

interpretation relied upon by the Examiner, and other elements found in the claims, could be characterized more broadly, and in different combinations and sub-combinations, and still present patentable subject matter. Further, Applicants' invention differs from the prior art of record by features other than the limitations cited by the Examiner.

If the Examiner would like to discuss this matter further, the Examiner is respectfully requested to contact the undersigned at (248) 641-1600.

Respectfully submitted, HARNESS, DICKEY & PIERCE, P.L.C. Attorneys for Applicants

Dated: June 1, 2011

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